

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraphs 0030 and 0031 with the following, rewritten paragraphs:

[00030] The received signals present at the output of the receiver 6 are amplified in an amplifier that is not shown herein and evaluated in an evaluation unit 30~~that is also not shown herein.~~

[00031] The received light rays 5, which are reflected by the barcode 2, are amplitude-modulated according to the sequence of black and white line elements in the barcode 2. The received signals present at the output of the receiver 6 are correspondingly amplitude-modulated. The analog, amplitude-modulated receiving signals are evaluated in an evaluation unit 30 with a threshold value unit. Binary signal sequences are generated as a result, which are used to detect the barcode 2 through a comparison with stored contrast patterns for barcodes 2.